

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3847

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TAGS: ETRD, US, CH

SUBJECT: CCPIT MISSION TO US

REF: A. PEKING 783; B. PEKING 1030, PARA 4

1. AT ITALIAN RECEPTION JUNE 2, CHINA COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (CCPIT) VICE PRESIDENT LI CH'UAN MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO USLO OFFICER ON SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER VISIT OF A CCPIT DELEGATION TO THE US:

A) WHILE SEPTEMBER IS THE AGREED MONTH, EXACT TIMING REMAINS UNCERTAIN SINCE CCPIT HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A CONCRETE PROPOSAL FOR THE DELAGATION'S ITINERARY FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE (NCUSCT). LI SAID NCUSCT VICE PRESIDENT THEROUX PROMISED THAT NCUSCT WOULD FORWARD AN ITINERARY PROPOSAL TO CCPIT SOMETIME AFTER THEROUX RETURNED FROM HIS LATE-APRIL VISIT TO PEKING (REF A); BUT SO FAR IT HAS NOT ARRIVED.

B) CCPIT ORIGINALLY PLANNED A TWO WEEK TRIP, BUT NCUSCT COUNTERPROPOSED A VISIT OF EIGHTEEN DAYS. THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUGGESTION OF A SLIGHTLY LONGER TIME FRAME SEEMS

"REASONABLE" AND CCPIT HAS IT "UNDER CONSIDERATION."

C) THE CCPIT DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF DIFFERENT STATE TRADING CORPORATIONS, BUT NOT NECESSARILY ALL OF THEM. SOME CORPORATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE CHINATEX, HAVE SENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE US ALREADY, AND THESE MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SEPTEMBER MISSION.

D) CCPIT IS PLANNING TO SEND A DELEGATION OF ABOUT TEN PEOPLE, BUT THE NUMBER IS NOT ABSOLUTELY FIXED. IT COULD GO HIGHER IF CCPIT DECIDES THAT HAVING A FEW MORE PEOPLE WOULD SERVICE A USEFUL PURPOSE.

2. COMMENT: IN TALKING TO LI, USLO OFFICER GAINED IMPRESSION THAT SO LONG AS NCUSCT COMES UP WITH AN INTERESTING EIGHTEEN DAY ITINERARY, CCPIT WILL AGREE TO STAY THAT LONG. HE ALSO FELT THAT LI CH'UAN WOULD PERSONALLY LIKE TO LEAD THE DELEGATION, BUT THAT THE DECISION ON WHO WILL HEAD THE MISSION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE. (WHEN NCUSCT'S DELEGATION VISITED CHINA IN NOVEMBER 1973 ANOTHER CCPIT VICE PRESIDENT, LI YUNG-TING, PLAYED HOST, POSSIBLY IN THE ABSENCE OF LI CH'UAN, WHO EARLIER HAD REGULAR CONTACT WITH AMERICANS BUT APPARENTLY WAS ILL THAT FALL.)

3. WE ASSUME DEPARTMENT WILL WISH TO PASS SUBSTANCE OF THIS CABLE TO NCUSCT SINCE IT GIVES SOME IDEA OF CCPIT'S CURRENT THINKING ON THE SEPTEMBER MISSION. BUSH

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